

THE RIO NEWS.

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NUMBER 4

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

AMERICAN LEGATION.—157, Rua das Laranjeiras.
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Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 o'clock, a.m.,
and 7 o'clock, p.m.; and every Wednesday at 7 o'clock,
p.m. Sunday School at 10 o'clock, a.m.
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RAILWAYS.

DOM PEDRO II.—Through Expresses: Central train
leaves Rio at 5 a.m.; arrives at Barra do Piraí at 7:20 a.m.;
Rio de Janeiro and Bahia (terminus) at 7:20 p.m. São Paulo train
leaves Rio at 6 a.m.; arrives at Barra at 8:15 a.m.; and Cachoeira,
where passengers for S. Paulo must change, at 12:15 p.m.
Entre Rio train leaves at 10:00 a.m., arriving at Barra at 11:15 a.m.
do Cachoeira at 12:45. Downward train leaves Barra at 5:15
a.m.; Cachoeira (S. Paulo branch) at 12:30 p.m.; Porto Novo
at 1:05; Entre Rio at 3:10. The S. Paulo train arrives in Rio
at 6:45 and the Central train at 8 p.m.
Limited Expresses leave Rio at 7 a.m.; arrives at Barra
at 10:25; Entre Rio at 11:25 and Marinho Procopio (terminus)
at 6:58 p.m. S. Paulo branch leaves Barra at 11:30 and arrives
at Cachoeira at 6:25 p.m. From Entre Rio train leaves at
3:15 p.m. and arrives at Porto Novo at 6:05. Downward
train leaves Marinho Procopio at 3:00 a.m.; Cachoeira 5:30
and Porto Novo 5:50, arriving at Rio at 7:50.
Mixed Trains leave Rio at 8:30 and 9:20 a.m. 3:15 and
5:30 p.m. first goes to Entre Rio arriving at 8:03 p.m.; second
and third to Barra arriving at 9:10 a.m. and 3:55 p.m., and
third to Barra arriving at 7:15. Downward train leaves Entre
Rio at 4:30 a.m., arriving at Barra at 5:17 and Rio at 7:30 p.m.;
leave Barra at 4 and 5:30 a.m.; arriving in Rio at 9:15 a.m. and
11:15 p.m. and leave Barra at 5:10 a.m., arriving in Rio at 7:50.
Night service: Train leaves Rio at 8 p.m. every Friday,
arriving at Barra at 12:30 and Porto Novo at 5 a.m. Downward
train leaves Barra at 10:50 p.m. every Monday,
arriving at Barra at 3:15 a.m. Train leaves Cachoeira at 12:05
p.m., arriving at S. Paulo at 6:40 p.m. Downward train leaves
S. Paulo at 6:00 a.m. and arrives at Cachoeira at 12:05 p.m.
where passengers change to the D. Pedro II line.
CANTAGALO R.—Leaves Niterói (Sant'Anna)
7 a.m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 10:30; Cordeiro (1 hour
per trainway from Cantagalo) 11:00. Return train leaves
Cordeiro 9:15 and Nova Friburgo 12:27 a.m., arriving at
Niterói 5:10 p.m. A special Nova Friburgo excursion
train leaves Niterói at 2:15 p.m. and Nova Friburgo at
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CORCOVADO R.—Trains leave the Station at Cosme
Vello, Laranjeiras, at 6, 8, 10, and 12 a.m. and 2, 4 and
6 p.m. on Sundays and holidays; and at 6:30 and 8:30 a.m.
and at 2 and 3:30 p.m. on week days.
PETROPOLIS STEAMERS AND R.R.—Steamers leave
Trapiçhe Mauá at 4 p.m. week days and 7 a.m. Sundays
and holidays. Returning train leaves Petrópolis at 7:30 a.m.
week days, and 4 p.m. Sundays and holidays. Mixed
train: returned 6:30 a.m.; downward (from Petrópolis) 7:30
p.m., week days only.

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vidor.
MUSEU NACIONAL.—Praça da Aclamação, em. Rua do
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Rua Lobo de Camões.

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do Senador Vergueiro; Office: 87, Rua do Theopisto, No. 12
to 13 p.m.
Dr. W. J. Fairbairn, M. D. Edin. Surgeon and Physician.
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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTIALLY

for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 24th of the month.

A. J. LAMOUKEUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, FEBRUARY 5th, 1888.

THE experience which the city of Buenos Aires is now suffering through an effort to put domestic servants under police supervision, is one which the municipal and police authorities of this city will be wise to heed before carrying out a similar project. In that city a municipal ordinance was passed requiring the registry of all servants and employees at the police office, which registry, of course, is subject to modifications every time a servant changes his domicile. And the registry must be made in person, according to the statement of local papers! Of course, such an ordinance is not only vexatious, but it gives the police a supervision over the domestic life of the city which is unwarranted and dangerous. It is generally believed that the Argentine Republic is blessed with republican institutions, but it will be difficult to find more arbitrary official supervision in the most absolute monarchies of Europe, than now exist in that country. When it reaches the pass that a house-holder can not keep a cook or a chambermaid who is not duly registered at the police station, nor hire and discharge a servant without making formal reports, it may be considered about time for a new "declaration of independence." We are glad to note that the Buenos Aires hotel servants, and many connected with bakeries and similar industries, have struck against so obnoxious a regulation, and we hope they will hold out until the municipal authorities withdraw the by-law. In this they certainly deserve the hearty support of every house-holder, for there must be a check put on the encroachments of officialism, or there will be no living with them. The ordinary provisions of law ought to be sufficient to meet any serious disputes between employers and servants, without the insufferable meddling of such police regulations as these. A beginning has already been made in Brazil in such matters, and a similar regulation has many advocates in this city. We do not anticipate that any strikes will ever occur here, nor that the hotels will be closed up for a fortnight and more as has been the case in Buenos Aires, but the abuses of authority will come and be felt all the same.

We are inclined to think that some of our colleagues, especially in the provinces, are borrowing altogether too much trouble over the impending change in the government and the probable influence of Conde d'Eu in the administration of public affairs. There is a great deal of empty talk about this

gentleman's sword, about Orleanist influences in Brazil, and about the suppression of all the liberties which the people now enjoy. But, says one of them, perhaps he has not read the word "brio" written on the Brazilian heart, nor that other word "independencia." If this concerns a change in the form of government, then one may understand that all this is intended simply to arouse popular prejudices and alarms; but if no such change is intended, then it is very silly talk. After setting aside the *salic* law so that the daughter may succeed, and then marrying her to a foreign prince of high character and acknowledged abilities, it is foolish to begin conjuring up difficulties and aggressions through his influence. If Brazil is afraid of an Orleanist prince's sword and influence, then why was he chosen as a husband for the Princess Imperial? Did any one suppose that he would not use his sword if occasion required it? And has it been forgotten how quickly the Paraguayan war was brought to an end when this same sword was thrown in the scale? He interfered, of course, with the jobbers and contractors who were prolonging the war for purposes of gain, but was that an affront to the "independencia" written on the Brazilian heart? We trust that His Majesty the Emperor is still far from leaving his throne to a successor, but when he does we are certain that it will not be the sword, nor the religion, nor the Orleanist training of the Conde d'Eu which will bring trouble on this country. If the criminal records of the day are to be considered, or the vacillations and bad faith of politicians and ministers, a firmer hand on or near the sceptre will do no harm whatever. We have but little faith in the success of a republic in this country, for self-government seems to be one of the things least understood by its people. What they might do after a few generations of training and experience we do not undertake to foretell, but what may reasonably be expected at the present moment from any greater degree of liberty than is now permitted may be fairly inferred from the current history of the day. It is not men like the Conde d'Eu that the country has to fear, but rather men like the present prime minister and his political supporters who seek to hold power through unskilfulness and artifices rather than sound principles. If there is nothing else to fear in the future but the husband of the Princess Imperial, then Brazil has every reason in the world for feeling perfectly secure and content.

THERE seems to be a curious misunderstanding among our colleagues of the daily press regarding the question of the par of exchange, and from what we can deduce, the general opinion favors a reduction of this par from 27d to 24d. We have had occasion on more than one occasion to point out that a reduction of the par of exchange would merely mean that the item "differences of exchange," in the budget would show a decrease while the actual gold payments of the Treasury would be just as we now see them. The foreign creditors of Brazil do not care a straw whether the legal par in the empire is 27 or 24 pence, except so far as its moral influence may go. They have contracted to receive interest and capital in sovereigns, and it is perfectly immaterial to them whether the Brazilian treasury charges on its books a sovereign at 105000, or at \$8889. It is therefore perfectly clear that so far as existing foreign engagements are concerned, Sr. Belisario may make his par 151 to-morrow; five golden sovereigns are annually due on each £100 of stock, and these must be paid. The guaranteed railways are in precisely the same position, for their contracts stipulate that the guarantee of interest must be paid in gold. What then does all this talk

about reducing the par of exchange amount to? Brazil is in a very different position from that into which the United States was thrust by the civil war. The American republic raised its loans in American gold currency, and the question of par was of paramount importance. Brazil has raised its foreign loans in sterling, and, as we say above, interest and capital must be paid as contracted for. Whether the *milreis* be considered as worth 27 pence, or only 24, is therefore of little interest for Brazil's foreign creditors. If the reduction in the par would produce any improvement in the financial position, or bring about a reduction in taxation, or any relief to the taxpayer, we could understand its advocacy. There is, however, not one advantage to be derived from it, save that the Treasury will charge each sovereign remitted at 105000, instead of \$8889, as is now the case. It appears puerile, therefore, to consider a reduction of the par of exchange as a great financial measure. Merchants will continue to recover contracts in gold, or its equivalent; customs duties are already levied on a gold basis, and in many cases much over gold equivalents. Who then is threatened by this reduction of par from 27 to 24 pence? The only answer we can find is that the holders of the 1868 and 1879 gold loan are in danger, and surely the government of the greatest of South American countries will not promote action that can, and will, be stigmatized as repudiation?

OUTSIDE of gold contracts and obligations, however, there are interests at stake in the proposed reduction of the par of exchange which should not be overlooked. In the first place, a reduction in the legal standard to follow a commercial depreciation, when one such change has already been made, may possibly have an unfavorable influence on the credit of the country. It is not exactly like debasing coin with more alloy, but in reality it is putting more paper *milreis* into the scale to balance the acknowledged standard of one sovereign. If there were good reasons given for the proposed change, on the score of convenience, or uniformity with some other currency, and precautions were taken to facilitate the change without inconvenience and loss, then no one would care to raise a question against it. But no such reasons have been given. Every year the government finds it necessary to pay a considerable sum on account of "differences in exchange," and to reduce this it is proposed to lower the par from 27 to 24 pence. There is a belief current, in addition to this, that the government can maintain the rate at the latter figure, which is, of course, a mere hypothesis. For all internal obligations, however, a reduction in the par is nothing more nor less than "scaling," or repudiating. Every one will agree, we presume, that there must be a standard of value for money as well as for everything else, and from this standard current values will be reckoned. That standard is generally conceded to be gold, and in Brazil it is the gold sovereign. All the foreign obligations of the government, of companies and individuals are based upon it, and it is the universally accepted medium of commerce. In its internal obligations the government has not agreed to pay gold, except for the 1868 and 1879 loans, but everybody has known, nevertheless, that the normal value of the *milreis* is 27 pence, or that \$8889 is equivalent to one pound sterling. Reducing this standard to 24 pence is therefore a nominal "scaling" of all such obligations 12½ per cent, or a nominal repudiation of one-eighth. If the internal debt of the country were paid to-day, it would of course be at about the proposed rate, and no one

would complain. But when formal steps are taken to reduce the nominal, and possible, equivalent of the pound sterling by 12½, and to repudiate the payment of the whole or any part of that difference, it certainly looks like a very dishonorable transaction. Then there is the influence which such a reduction of par will have on rents, wages and prices of domestic products. If the equivalent of the sovereign be so reduced that it will hereafter take 105000 to equal what before was calculated at \$8889, then the money of the country is actually worth less, and all rents, wages, etc., will yield an eighth less if not raised. Commerce will be less affected, because prices are always raised to meet every fall in the exchangeable value of the currency. Wages and rents, however, are not changed so easily. At first sight it may not appear injudicious or prejudicial to make the proposed change, but when the subject is studied more carefully we are inclined to think that the expected suppression of the "differences of exchange" account by transferring its amount to the regular appropriation, will hardly offset the real prejudices which the country must suffer.

THE most notable incident connected with the emancipation movement during the last ten days was a speech in the São Paulo provincial assembly on the 27th ult. by Senator Antonio Prado, in which he took occasion to repeat and emphasize his views on the expediency of immediate abolition. The occasion was a discussion on the recent disorders in Campinas, regarding which the speaker defended the military officer there on the grounds that it was his duty to maintain order and repress all attempts to incite disturbance. He, however, deprecated the use of the military as slave-catchers. It appears, however, that Senator Prado has not been correctly informed regarding the Campinas incident, as the military officer there has allied himself to a group of reactionists who are doing everything in their power to restrain emancipation and harass abolitionists. And this officer has carried his vexatious meddling with private affairs and his arbitrary interference with individuals so far that he is thoroughly hated by the people, and his very presence is quite enough to create a tumult. In closing his speech on this question Senator Prado made the following important declaration:

Mr. President, when I expressed myself on the floor of the Senate on the question of slavery, I declared positively that if the government should not promote a definite solution of this question in the session of the following year, I would go into opposition. I have not receded one single step, one single line, from the ground on which I took my stand on that occasion; but I am thoroughly convinced that the reform will be made by the conservative party and by the present ministry, because, in face of manifestations of national opinion in the sense of hastening the solution of the question, no government can maintain itself at the head of public affairs without hoisting the banner of emancipation of the slaves.

There can be no doubt of the sincerity of the S. Paulo senator on this question, nor of his fixed purpose to force its settlement in the next session of parliament, but we are inclined to believe that he is a little too sanguine in regard to the present ministry. There are good reasons for believing that Premier Coteipe has prepared no new emancipation law, and that he will not undertake to do so. He has repeatedly declared his opposition to any further steps toward hastening emancipation, and he is continually repeating his conviction that any steps in that direction will be fatal to the country. More than that, he is hopelessly behind the drift of public sentiment in São Paulo. It may be that final emancipation will be proclaimed by the conservative party, but we do not believe it will be under the Coteipe cabinet.

As for the emancipation movement in São Paulo, no mere description can give an idea of the progress it is making. At the present moment all parties in the provincial assembly are unanimous in favor of immediate emancipation. Even the extremists on the pro-slavery side — men like Moreira de Barros, Conde de Parnaíba, Gavião Peixoto, and others — have liberated their slaves either at once, or at the end of the coming coffee crop. In the assembly the liberals and republicans have openly and unreservedly pledged their support to Senator Prado in his advocacy of immediate emancipation. In reality the only parties in opposition to the movement are the planters of the districts adjoining Rio de Janeiro and the officials and representatives of the imperial government. Were it not for the Cotegepe cabinet and its military slave-catchers there would not be a thousand slaves in São Paulo at this moment, and even as it is we do not believe there will be a slave left in the province — except fugitive slaves — at the end of the current year. In the western districts the movement is spontaneous and the slaves are being liberated by hundreds. In many cases the emancipations are followed by contracts with the freedmen to remain on the plantations as paid laborers, while in others the planters are actually going to the abolition leader of the province, Dr. Antonio Bento, and making contracts for the employment of negro laborers, whether freedmen or fugitives. Hundreds of the fugitives hidden near Santos are finding employment in this way. We are informed also that emancipated slaves, contrary to the common fear, are actually seeking employment. According to a statement made by Antonio Prado in his speech of the 27th ult., not one of the thousand slaves recently liberated in the municipality of Tietê, which is now entirely free, has left the plantations, and this assertion was promptly ratified by the member from that district. In other municipalities the transformation has been effected without the slightest difficulty and without the slightest loss, and not a few planters are already giving their testimony to the effect that the paid freedman is a better and more profitable laborer than the slave. We are glad to record this, for it is a practical demonstration of what we have long ago and repeatedly argued, that the freedmen can be made the best laboring population which it is possible for Brazil to obtain. It will now be interesting to watch the effect of this movement on the imperial government. By the time the next General Assembly opens São Paulo will have made such progress toward the complete abolition of slavery in that province, that no measure short of immediate and unconditional emancipation will be found satisfactory. No half-way measure, like those hinted at, will be acceptable. What has been done voluntarily and freely in São Paulo, without causing loss or embarrassment, will be urged upon the other provinces, with what success time alone can tell. Some day the liberal men of the country will get tired of making concessions and granting favors to mere reactionists — and then the storm will break.

THE OTHER SIDE.

30th January, 1888.

To the Editor:

Sir,—Your article in reference to the Custom House authorities, and parcels of late newspapers, surprises me, inasmuch, as the treatment received by you is quite the reverse of that I have experienced at the hands of the gentleman now holding the position of Guarda-Mór. My occupation as water clerk to Mr. Trout compels me to go on board every steamer on arrival that enters this port, and during the time the

Guarda-Mór has held office here, he has never refused to allow me to bring newspapers on shore.

By nearly every steamer, this house receives a packet of late newspapers; I always ask the Guarda-Mór, or if he is not there his adjutant, permission to bring them on shore, and up to the present time have never been refused.

I must tender you the expression of my apology for troubling you. I should not do so, only think it unjust that a gentleman who is always most courteous and obliging should be placed before the public in a wrong light.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

RICHARD FAIRFAX SHERRARD.

It ought to be well known by this time that the editor of this journal is not accustomed to make charges or complaints without due cause and without being prepared to substantiate them. If the case has been correctly stated, then the complaint certainly can not be described as "unjust," nor the parties referred to be placed in a "wrong light". Mr. Sherrard's duties as water clerk for one of the leading ship chandlers of this city, certainly give him excellent opportunities for a personal acquaintance with port and customs officials, and were we less familiar with the extra-official practices of the port, we should say that his testimony is conclusive, and that we have somehow been led into a very perplexing mistake. As the case stands, it appears that Mr. Sherrard, the *Journal* and the *Gazeta* get their papers without difficulty or annoyance, and they all consider the *guarda-mór* to be a gentleman and a scholar; while, on the other hand, our insignificant little parcel is first sent to the custom house, then to the postoffice, and then disappears altogether, and our opinion of the aforesaid official is therefore not quite as high. We naturally judge persons and things from our own experience, and that experience is to the effect that we have not only been subjected to the annoyances stated, but that not a parcel of papers has been received at this office for nearly two months. We can not, of course, pay any attention to anonymous communications in the paid columns of the daily press, but if the "Munchausen" of the *Pais* will tell us what has become of these parcels, or of that particular parcel which was seen to leave the *Trent* on the 15th ult., we shall not regret this brief notice of a writer who has the strange taste to masquerade in so questionable a character. There are reasons for believing him to be one of the officials complained of, and we shall be very glad to know that he is only a subordinate who will hereafter carry out the orders of a chief who takes so much pains to oblige Mr. Sherrard and two of our colleagues.

Postscript.—Since the foregoing was put in type, our attention was called to a parcel of papers at the Exchange, addressed to this office, which had arrived on the 1st instant by the *La Plata*. The compliment of treating the Exchange as a kind of branch office of the News is as delicate as it is—deserved; and we trust that the gentlemen of that important institution will fully appreciate the honor conferred upon them. We take pleasure in offering our sincere thanks for the very high compliment conferred—both upon ourselves and upon the Exchange.

The exports of jerked beef to Rio de Janeiro from the River Plate during 1887 amounted to 18,729,650 lbs. against 32,606,502 lbs. in 1886. The notable decrease in 1887 was owing to the Brazilian ports being closed against Argentina. The value of the beef exported in 1886 was \$25,518,000 mps and \$14,657,989 in 1887.—*Buenos Ayres Herald*, Jan. 21.

THE BRITISH CHURCH FUND.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENTED TO THE BRITISH CHURCH FUND AT AN ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT NO. 8 RUA DA Candelaria ON 19TH JANUARY, 1888.

Gentlemen,—In presenting accounts for the year just ended your Committee have to report that in accordance with a resolution come to at a general meeting of subscribers held 12th September, 1887, the organ has been thoroughly cleaned and repaired at a cost of 952\$, which has been met by a special subscription got up for the purpose, amounting to 1,150\$000, so that a small balance reverts to the church fund, and is included in the account annexed.

The total receipts for the year just ended (including above) were 10,833\$280 and expenditure 10,854\$731, leaving a balance in hand of 957\$596, or about the same sum of last year.

On comparing the accounts now presented with those of last year, it will be noticed that there has been a considerable falling off in pew rents, which however on this occasion has been compensated for by increased donations during the year; but as the chief part of these consisted of a jubilee offering of 500\$000, a repetition can not be looked for, and as pew rents tend to diminish still more your Committee suggest that an appeal should be made to parties formerly residents in Rio de Janeiro, but now living in Europe, to assist the fund with donations and subscriptions.

Rio de Janeiro, 18th January, 1888.

(Signed) ALBERT J. YOUNG, Trustees

LOVELL J. MULLINS, Trustees

H. O. ROBINSON, Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR 1887.

Receipts.

To Balance from 1886.....	970\$047
Pew rents.....	8,010 000
Donations.....	855 000
Collections in church.....	683 591
do for repairing organ.....	1,150 000
Interest on deposits in Bank.....	131 690
	<u>11,812\$327</u>

Expenditure.

By Clergyman's stipend.....	8,000\$000
Organist's salary.....	750 000
Clerk's do.....	500 000
Petty expenses.....	200 110
Cleaning and repairing organ.....	952 000
Repairs in church.....	127 000
Drainage tax.....	60 000
Gas accounts.....	61 661
Fire Insurance premium.....	66 650
Printing and advertising.....	137 900
Balance to 1888.....	957 596
	<u>11,812\$327</u>

Statement of balance.

London and Brazilian Bank in account current.....	936\$950
Cash in hand.....	20 646
	<u>957\$596</u>

K. & O. E.

Rio de Janeiro, 18th January, 1888.

RAINFALL FOR 1887.

From observations made at the district stations of the City Improvements Company in this city.

Months	S. Christóvão	Gambúia	Glória	Botafogo	Rua 1 ^a de Março	Rua 1 ^a de Março
	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.	mm.
January.....	190.00	119.15	111.00	80.80	131.50	20 11
February.....	53.00	46.75	39.00	49.50	50.00	23 5
March.....	215.75	106.40	129.20	177.50	153.44	17 14
April.....	109.00	129.10	82.75	115.50	84.83	21 6
May.....	152.60	175.60	131.88	187.20	140.09	18 13
June.....	91.10	16.00	17.00	44.40	24.64	26 4
July.....	97.00	99.75	31.75	45.00	41.00	21 0
August.....	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	0.00	31 0
September.....	68.80	82.40	116.25	136.40	98.75	20 10
October.....	21.60	49.75	45.50	69.50	30.00	27 4
November.....	114.10	62.50	71.50	111.30	109.50	23 7
December.....	90.50	74.25	34.80	65.50	64.75	22 9
Totals.....	1,138.30	775.65	801.90	1,079.30	929.00	275 90

The heaviest rainfall at Rua Primeiro de Março was on the 3rd Sept. at 10 a.m., when 31.80 millimetres fell in about two hours of which 20 mm fell in 20 consecutive minutes.

The mineral product of the United States in 1886 amounted to only a little over \$405,000,000.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The municipal council of S. Borja, Rio Grande do Sul, has been suspended for its recent resolution in regard to the succession of the Princess Regent.

—The new immigration project in Minas Geraes has been sanctioned, and the final arrangements are now being made for the acquisition of immigrants.

—During the latter part of last month there were torrential rains in the province of Espírito Santo which caused considerable damage to roads, crops, etc.

—A Minas Geraes journal states that the bishop of Diamantina had seemed the liberation of 686 slaves. We are waiting to hear reports from the bishop of Rio de Janeiro.

—A slave-hunter was incautious enough to put up at a hotel in S. Paulo for the night, on the 24th ult., having several captured fugitives with him. The news got out, and the first he knew a crowd filled the hotel and the slaves were spirited away.

—A provincial decree of the president of Rio de Janeiro dated on December 27th, orders the payment of 1,000\$ to each of the two engineers, who were appointed to value the plant, etc., of the Niechery Gas Company, sold to the Belgian syndicate.

—The police delegate at Cabo Frio, province of Rio de Janeiro, has succeeded in capturing 49,000\$ in government stock that had been washed ashore in a trunk from the wreck of the steamer *Goybas*, and promptly annexed by two inhabitants of the district.

—A telegram in *O País* published on the 25th ult. states that Sr. Gavião Peixoto, of the province of S. Paulo, had freed all his negroes, with the exception of fugitives. The latter have apparently freed themselves. Sr. Gavião appears to have opened his eyes at last.

—On the 17th ult., 12 slaves arrived at Piassanga, S. Paulo, asking that some one would buy them at 200\$ per head. This price was apparently fixed by their master. The slaves declare that the food was insufficient and the labour excessive on the plantation they had left.

—The French steamer *La France* landed 500 Italian immigrants at Santos on the 27th ult. and carried 600 to the River. Eleven hundred immigrants on one steamer is a pretty large number. In case of accident, how many of these could be provided for with boats and life rafts?

—The Sociedade Promotora da Imigração of S. Paulo held a meeting on the 23rd ult., when it was resolved to accept the charge of the immigrants *hoiaphatka*, as provided for in the bill just adopted, to admit 28 members more, making 50 in all, and to increase the board of directors from three to five.

—Advices from Cantagallo, Rio de Janeiro, published in the *Journal* of the 29th, state that an association had been organized there with a capital of 2,000,000\$ for the promoting of immigration, and that London bankers had promised to raise 8,000,000\$ in addition so soon as the association was definitely formed.

—There are now 1,030 public schools in the province of S. Paulo, according to the last *relatório* of the president, of which 805 are provided with teachers. The number of pupils matriculated last year was 26,939, and the attendance 20,596. For a province with an estimated population of one million this is not a very flattering exhibit.

—The *Provincia do Espírito Santo* of the 27th ult. says that 23 immigrants left a plantation at S. Torquato, Espírito Santo, on the preceding day because of insufficient food and lack of accommodations. They were sent to one of the state colonies. Perhaps the planters will eventually learn that good service depends largely upon good treatment.

—The receipts at the Pará custom house and the provincial revenue during the last four years were as follows:

	custom house	prov. revenue
1887.....	10,171,644\$269	3,829,516\$110
1886.....	9,215,638 572	3,181,247 599
1885.....	7,040,952 826	2,807,220 820
1884.....	8,978,612 346	2,299,187 806

—The Santos custom house receipts for the last five fiscal years were as follows:

	receipts	total
1886-87.....	5,794,778\$233	5,794,778\$233
1885-86.....	6,054,407 043	6,054,407 043
1884-85.....	5,670,000 000	5,670,000 000
1883-84.....	5,888,759 785	5,888,759 785
1882-83.....	5,494,165 751	5,494,165 751

—The late president of S. Paulo, Conde de Parnaíba, announces that he has not liberated his slaves, as announced some time since. There appears to be something mysterious about all this. Can a planter really promise to liberate his slaves, or was no such promise ever made? We have since learned that the Conde has been consulted by the slaves themselves, and with as much success that they will be free at the end of the next coffee crop.

The January receipts of the Santos custom house amounted to \$38,335.363.

It is held that the government is treating for the sale in lease of the Ypanema iron foundry, as a representative of a syndicate of Belgian capitalists has arrived here to examine the property.

From May to 31st December last there were 131 cases received at the small-pox hospital in Pará, of which 30 died, 83 were cured, and 18 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

On the 26th ult. the boiler of a steamer plying between Bahia and the interior of the province exploded, and up to the last advices some 30 persons had died, either killed outright, or from injuries received.

The president of Minas Geraes has recently been authorized to spend 2,200\$ in objects of decoration and for domestic use in his palace at Ouro Preto. The sum does not seem extravagant if the pots and kettles are very demoralized.

The statement is repeated that a large quantity of counterfeit 50\$, 100\$ and 200\$ notes have been put into circulation in the province of Rio Grande do Sul. It is said that the firm introducing them calls itself Espirito Santo & Co., (anglicized Holy Ghost & Co.)

The *Provincia do Pard* of the 14th ult. says that the president of Pará had resolved to suspend the 5% provincial export tax in conformity with a petition from the commercial association. The question will be submitted to the next provincial assembly.

The *Correio Amapaense*, a S. Paulo provincial paper, recently acknowledges the receipt of a stalk of maize measuring three metres, nearly to feet, in height with 22 ears of corn upon it, all of which are well developed. This ought to be mentioned in the immigrants' "guia."

As the males of the town of Espirito Santo do Pital, province of S. Paulo, have shown great carelessness in the matter of securing illumination for that town, the ladies have taken the matter up. We sincerely trust they will put the masculine elements of their town to shame.

The municipal chamber of Ouro Preto, Minas Geraes, recently passed an ordinance to collect 500\$ on each slave introduced into the municipality. The president of the province then ordered the suspension of the ordinance; the chamber refused and was promptly suspended itself and replaced by a more compliant body of elites.

On the 31st ult. the minister of agriculture notified the president of the province of Minas Geraes that he was authorized to introduce 500 families of immigrants into the province, whose passage money would be supplied by the general government. Adults will receive 80\$, children from 8 to 12 years 40\$ and from 3 to 8 years 20\$ each.

According to the annual report of Messrs. Barros & Vianna, of Pará, the total export of rubber from the Amazon during the past year was 14,085,754 kilos, of which 8,527,590 kilos were for the United States and 5,558,164 kilos for Europe. The total export in 1886 was 13,066,144 kilos. The stock on hand on December 31st was 890 metric tons.

The new municipal council of S. Buja, Rio Grande do Sul, makes haste to announce that the resolution of its predecessor in regard to a *plébiscite* has been repudiated, and that S. Buja now informs all similar bodies that it has no such reasonable purposes in mind. It would seem to be a very effective way to repress independence on the part of the municipalities—summary suspension and the appointment of a satisfactory successor.

The *Provincia do Espirito Santo*, of the 25th ult., says that 157 Italian immigrants had just arrived there under contract for two plantations, but as no preparations had been made for their reception they were landed in a heavy rain and then left to shift for themselves as best they could. It seems to take time to make it understood that an imported laborer is just a little better than an imported straight horse.

A lawyer recently visited the jail at Nova Friburgo, province of Rio de Janeiro, and found there an old black, whose one article of clothing was a dilapidated blanket. It appears that his crime was lodging a complaint of ill treatment. The lawyer appealed for and secured a writ of *habeas corpus*, and he wants to know what the authorities of Nova Friburgo are about. Lawyers always ask too many questions.

A provincial colleague publishes the following statistics regarding exports from Rio Grande do Sul during the past year:

Jerkerl-beef	26,677,890 kilos.
Tallow, grease, etc.	4,632,060 "
Salted hides	408,340 "
Dry hides	441,645 "

This is said to be an increase of 20% on the exports of 1886, and is due to the quarantine against jerkerl-beef from the River Plate.

Recent advices from the interior of the province of Ceará state that there had been profuse rains and that the fears of a drought were relieved.

In the district of Garanhuns, Pernambuco, the planting of coffee and cacao is stated to be rapidly increasing, owing to the extension of the railway to the town.

The collector at Pombal, province of S. Paulo, having endeavored to execute the recent recommendation from the department of agriculture as to the registry of conditional freedmen (of slaves), it was declared to him by some planters of the municipality that they had not conceded the manumissions which were noticed by the press. This is reported by the said collector to the *Gazeta do Magalhães*.—*Journal do Commercio*, 27th Jan. Comment is useless.

The annual report of the Sociedade Promotora de Imigração, of S. Paulo, says that Dr. Martinho Paulo was in Italy last year and had occasion to see the happiness attending the embarkation of the emigrants. Perhaps it was a coincidence, but we happened to see a party of Italian immigrants embarking at Santos for Buenos Aires some four months ago—and the "happiness" had all left them. A more desolate, poverty-stricken, pitiable lot of people it would be difficult to imagine. But, as we have said, perhaps it was only a coincidence.

On the 4th ult. the police at Pará captured three men, two of whom were foreigners, charged with being chiefs of a band of burglars in that city. A paragraph noticing the arrest is curious: "to these thieves is attributed the robbery of which the grocerman (*avereiro*) José Alves Ferreira was a victim, who in exchange for 1,000\$ was to receive from them a large sum in counterfeit money, and received a scaled parcel which contained pieces of newspapers." Sr. José Alves Ferreira does not appear to have been arrested—nor even blamed.

An amusing incident occurred at Ytá, S. Paulo, a few days since. The slaves belonging to the plantation of a widow in that vicinity, had run away, but were soon captured by the authorities and locked up in the Ytá jail. The lady then sent them their letters of freedom, and they were allowed to go. The news soon spread to the neighboring plantations, and the slaves somehow got the idea that as soon as they presented themselves at the adjacent jail they would receive their free papers. And a police force actually became necessary to keep the eager fugitives away from the jail!

The *Correio de Santos* of the 21st ult. relates that a considerable number of immigrants arrived there on the 19th to go south on the expiring steamer *Rio Paraná*. On the entrance of the steamer 96 of them received their orders to embark, with their luggage, but 58 were left in the street unprotected for, exposed first to the sun and then to a heavy rain. Three messages were sent to the immigration agent, who finally made his appearance at 5 p.m. and gave the necessary orders for passages, which detained the steamer until 6 o'clock. Through another blunder the luggage of these poor people was not provided for and was therefore left behind at the railway station, to be sent on by some other steamer. As it is, these poor wretches, hungry and wet, were sent out on a long journey down the coast without a change of clothing, and will be obliged to wait a week or more before it can reach them.

RAILROAD NOTES

On the 12th ult. work was commenced on the extension of the Candeia railway to Candelaria.

The October receipts of the Dom Pedro II railway were 879,628\$371 and expenditures 551,040\$434, leaving a balance of 328,587\$937.

The Leopoldina and Oeste de Minas railways have agreed to gratuitously transport immigrants and their luggage over their respective lines.

The São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 7\$500 a share, which is now payable.

It is said that the surveys for the Valle do Sapucahy railway, São Paulo, will be initiated sometime during the current month.

During the past year the train fares on this city made 1,472,662 trips and carried 4,650,125 passengers, of which 38,206,366 paid. Of those carried gratuitously, 1,248,449 were provided with official passes.

There was a meeting of representatives of the several railways of the province of São Paulo on the 20th ult., when it was resolved to recommend a revision of tariffs and regulations, and to recommend several immediate changes in the existing tariffs.

According to the *Carteira Mercantil*, of São Paulo, the balance sheet of the railway "clearing house" (*contaduría central*) of that province shows that the gross receipts of all the railways in the province during 1887 were 14,325,726\$270, against 6,102,556\$020 in 1877. The total value of the exports was 85,106,444\$821 last year, against an estimated total of 20,000,000\$ ten years ago.

COFFEE NOTES

The *Journal* on the 24th ult. states that estimates of the Minas Geraes' coffee crop next season are 120,000 tons, or 2,000,000 bags.

The Merchant Banking Company's market report dated London, January 7th, says that the advices received there estimating the Brazil coffee crop at 7,500,000 to 8,500,000 bags for Rio and Santos knocked the bottom out of the market.

A Campinas paper has been informed that the next coffee crop will not be as large as anticipated. Only a medium crop is now expected. When the planters get their estimates down a little more, it will be time for a few speculators to go up and buy their crops in the gross.

Le *Brest*, of the 15th ult. has a telegram via Havre from Messrs. Zerrner, Bulow & Co. estimating the Santos crop at 3,000,000 bags, and Santos and Rio at 6,750,000 bags, but in view of the slave question they do not think that over 6,000,000 bags may be exported. This reference to the slaves is unfortunate, for the greater part of Brazilians are persuaded that the emancipation of the negro will have little, if any, effect on production, and we agree to this, in a certain extent. It seems curious that it took so long for the Brazilian planter to discover that he will not be a loser by freeing his negroes.

LOCAL NOTES

Vegetalina Imperial, whatever it may be, is good for snake bites. The S. Paulo papers say so.

A lad, 13 years old, committed suicide here on the 23rd ult. by hanging. No motive is ascribed for the act.

O Paiz of the 27th ult. brings whaling into the fishery question between Canada and the United States. Whales on the Newfoundland banks are rare.

On the 25th ult. our colleague, *Noitidades*, was one year old. We sincerely trust it may reach 200, but not without some change in its literary department.

It is said the obscurity was so great during the eclipse of the moon on the 28th ult., that the chickens in the neighborhood of Engenho Velho actually went to roost.

A citizen was drawn on the jury the other day who rejoices in the name of Michael of the Gilded Back (*Miguel da Costa Dourado*). Gilt edged also, probably.

A telegram to the *Noitidades*, dated on the 25th ult., states that hundreds of workmen and paupers were dying from cold in Baltimore. It is just like that pluggingly icy.

If the epidemic continues, the 1st police delegate will have no time for anything but hunting up seductive gentlemen whom he obliges to marry the too susceptible Julias.

The French minister of marine has recently called the attention of fishermen to the peculiarly favorable condition of the fisheries off the west coast of Africa, where, among other fish, cod is abundant.

On the 29th ult. the procession in honor of St. Sebastian was rendered particularly interesting, one of the priests belonging to the show, broke his way-candle over the head of one of the spectators.

The Pope received the Brazilian legation at the Vatican on the 28th, and improved the occasion to say some complimentary things of the Emperor and Empress and to express a desire for the prosperity of Brazil.

Love does it all. On the 28th ult. a young woman living in Engenho Novo took salts of lemon, oxalic acid, or some such poison, because her young man had become lukewarm in his attentions.

The December number of *Le Journal des Chambres de Commerce* has a violent attack on the United States, because President Cleveland has proposed a reduction in custom duties. Foreign money helped to pay our civil war expenses, no doubt, but it was not French money. This country exerted itself to the utmost to break up the American Union during the "unpleasantness." Of course, the empire will be charged with the ill-feeling shown the United States; but the empire was France all the same.

The *Gazeta* on the 31st ult. points out that labor is not the only requisite to the prosperity of Brazil; capital is also required. But our colleague must admit that if foreign labor, and foreign capital also, is required to develop the empire, there is nothing left of the "future of Brazil," but the soil. Moreover the banks hold on to their plantations with a tenacity that resembles the sinking man and the straw. We may ask, also, what the native is to do while foreign labor and capital is developing the country.

It is announced that Patti will leave Lisbon on March 8th for Buenos Aires.

Mr. E. C. F. Nizolmi has received the exequatur recognizing him as vice-consul here for Great Britain.

On the 28th ult. the "Serviços Marítimos" lighter company launched a new tug-boat which was named the *Stella*.

In 1887 there were 23 fires in Rio, of which only 2 were of importance. The loss occasioned is estimated at 310,000\$.

Here is your chance! The bishop of S. Paulo has put up for competition no less than 50 parish churches in his diocese.

It is said that the purchase of the Rio S. Pedro property from Messrs. Fannie Brothers & Co. has finally been decided upon.

An admiral, on half pay, of the Brazilian navy died on the 1st from the effects of bites inflicted on him by some savage dogs, in his own garden.

On the drop curtain of one of our theatres there is the following mysterious announcement: "High life's Billiards; Rna—etc." What are high life's billiards?

A Havas telegram dated from Paris on the 31st ult. states that a French court had decided that there was no impediment to the marriage of priests. The Pope is to be heard from on this question.

It is reported that the Princess Regent has chosen Barão de Leopoldina for senator from Minas Geraes. The ablest man on the list is Deputy Manoel Soares, but he does not possess the official sympathy of the prime minister.

One of the health inspectors recently seized a quantity of rusked maize in two coffee roasting establishments here. We have seen that high prices for coffee have reduced consumption abroad, and it now appears they have stimulated adulteration here.

The minister of finance has recently advised the president of the province of Piahy, that should that province would not be accepted in guarantee of purchases of government lands and properties. Piahy does not seem to enjoy good credit with the Treasury.

The authorities have ordered that work on the proposed grand edifice on Praia da Sandale, Batofogo be suspended. This is one of the most curious of all emblems just known here. The building, its contractors, the authority for its construction, are all involved in a cloud of mystery.

Our city fathers are a curious lot. All the appeals for repairing the streets, many of which are in a disgraceful condition, were unheard, or disregarded; but so soon as it is said that the carnival processions are likely to meet with accidents from the condition of the streets, then steps are at once taken to patch up the worst sections.

The large dry dock in the Sade belonging to the firm of Finne Brothers & Co., has just been transferred from the control of William Fannie Kemp to that of Albert Cortez, the heir at law of the property who is represented here by Dr. J. C. Rodrigues. The well-known naval constructor Tinjano A. de Carvalho has been made manager of the dock.

The *Journal* of the 3rd says that the soldiers stationed in the old city palace, are accustomed to take baths, naked, in the tank of the new public fountain in the Praça D. Pedro II. A number of them were disposing themselves there at 10 o'clock on the evening of the 1st inst. This harmonizes admirably with the stringent regulations about bathing along the beaches in the morning!

An American exchange explains that the watchman-boxes recently established in Bullah, New York, are to provide for finding a policeman when required. The idea might be developed here. If policemen were locked up in watch-boxes, one would know where to seek them; now, it appears that they loaf around, and are as far away from the scene of any disturbance as circumstances will admit.

On the 1st inst. an employé in one of the departments of the war office presented a forged document to the teller at the Treasury for payment. The forgery was discovered and the person presented to one of the superior officers of the Treasury, to whom he declared that the document had been confided to him by an unknown person for collection. This is about as impudent a defense as can well be imagined, but it appears to have been accepted.

What is wrong with the rations served out to the army? A short time ago a number of soldiers in the province of Rio Grande do Sul were attacked with symptoms of what at first was feared to be cholera, and on the 28th in this city 17 soldiers of the 1st battalion were sent to the hospital complaining of nausea and colic. The surgeons enlisted with the examination of the food supplied must be very careless in the discharge of their duties.

20	Soroclimana R.R. to R.R.	167
400	Soroclimana R.R. to R.R.	168
135	Luiz de Sanebar R.R. to R.R.	170
100	Luiz de Sanebar R.R. to R.R.	171
100	Luiz de Sanebar R.R. to R.R.	172
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100	Luiz de Sanebar R.R. to R.R.	199
100	Luiz de Sanebar R.R. to R.R.	200

HYPOTHECARY NOTES.

DEBENTURES AND SHARESARRIVALS OF FOREIGN STEAMERSDEPARTURES OF FOREIGN STEAMERS.

* Calling at intermediate ports.

NAMK	INNO	TYPE	WHERE FROM	CONSIGNOR
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NAME	TORONTO	ENTER	WHITE STAR	PRIZES	CANADIAN VESSEL
<i>American</i>					
bk H. Havener.....	525	Jan. 4	New York	Philips Bros.	
bk O. Thurlow.....	575	Jan. 6	New York	Philips Bros.	
bk Amy.....	576	Jan. 6	New York	Philips Bros.	
bk J. H. Deller.....	576	Jan. 6	Baltimore	Leaveng & Co.	
ing J. W. Rossin.....	582	Jan. 7	New York	W. Guinane	
<i>British</i>					
bk Kate Burnill.....	688	Jan. 7	Cardiff.....	Fraser, Cook & Co.	
sp Arklow.....	1474	Jan. 7	Cardiff.....	Fraser, Cook & Co.	
ing Glasgow.....	1379	Jan. 7	Glasgow.....	Zenith & Silvestro	
sp Vaudrin.....	1379	Jan. 7	Cardiff.....	Zenith & Silvestro	
bk Peritodisco.....	682	Jan. 7	Rosario.....	De Rougiers	
ing J. A. Carrington.....	394	Jan. 7	Newport.....	Zenith & Silvestro	
ing C. R. C.	248	Jan. 7	Arichat.....	Zenith & Silvestro	
ing Alaska.....	248	Jan. 7	55 Paphesia.....	Zenith & Silvestro	
ing J. A. Carrington.....	394	Jan. 7	Rosario.....	De Rougiers	
bk Fisher.....	213	Jan. 8	New York.....	Walter, J. L. & Co.	
sp East. Light.....	1248	Jan. 8	Newport.....	D. Pedro II.	
bk Albion.....	1933	Jan. 8	Cardiff.....	Royal Mail	
<i>Danish</i>					
bk Aurora.....	569	Jan. 1	Boulogne.....	Avenier, D. & Co.	
<i>French</i>					
sp Tampack.....	2497	Dec. 14	Cardiff.....	Wilson Sons	
ing A. A. Bordes.....	250	Jan. 20	Cardiff.....	Wilson Sons	
<i>German</i>					
bk Hirsch.....	263	Jan. 7	Palmaira.....	Gimnelli & C.	
<i>Norwegian</i>					
bk Zariza.....	167	Dec. 2	Cardiff.....	Mess, Matthei & Co.	
bk Afton.....	328	Jan. 1	Madrid.....	To order	
bk Afton.....	328	Jan. 1	1 Ferdinand.....	Philips Bros.	
bk Eriksund.....	186	Jan. 1	Mat vidito.....	F. M. B. To order	
bk Sif.....	186	Jan. 1	Agros.....	Souza & A. C.	
bk Sif.....	186	Jan. 1	Rosario.....	Souza & A. C.	
bk Selvig.....	186	Jan. 1	Baradero.....	G. Gudgen	
bk Herd.....	328	Jan. 1	Agros.....	Souza & A. C.	
bk Albion.....	604	Jan. 1	Penedo.....	Fonseca & C.	
bk Arctic.....	328	Jan. 1	Penedo.....	Fonseca & C.	
bk Arctic.....	602	Feb. 2	Matão.....	Karl Valen & Co.	
<i>Portuguese</i>					
bk Marguaria.....	356	Dec. 14	1 Oporto.....	Veiga Filho & Co.	
bk Noemim.....	324	Jan. 6	Oporto.....	Veiga, P. & Co.	
bk Noemim.....	324	Jan. 6	1 Madeira.....	J. Marinho	
bk Mathias H. H.....	324	Jan. 6	Aracaju.....	A. M. Maru	
bk Van. da Gama.....	425	Jan. 30	Oporto.....	Costa Santos	
bk Van. da Gama.....	425	Jan. 30	Brunswick	Teófilo & Co.	
bk Reimosa.....	487	Dec. 16	Concordia.....	Friis Henri	
bk Wm. M. Serrate.....	230	Jan. 13	Rosario.....	de Sousa	
ing Henry.....	291	Jan. 13	1 Macho.....	To order	
ing Nautlius.....	291	Jan. 13	1 Macho.....	To order	
ing Nautlius.....	291	Feb. 3	Penedo.....	A. V. Carval	

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Watson Ritchie & Co

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Date	Steamer	Destination
Feb. 9	Trent...	Southampton and Antwerp, calling at Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon and Vigo.
" 15	Tagus...	Santos, Montevideo and Buenos Aires.
" 24	La Plata...	Southampton and Antwerp calling at Bahia, Pernambuco, Lisbon and Vigo.

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& back.....	\$275	—

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<i>Lascel</i> (Loading also in Santos)...	Feb. 4th
<i>Sphinx</i>	" 11th
<i>Boat</i> (Loading also in Santos)...	" 18th
<i>Hipparchus</i> do do	" 25th

To Southampton

(for London) and Antwerp:

Albatross Belgian Mail steamer... Feb. 15th*Others* " " " " " 20th*For Other Ports:**Lafayette* for Liverpool via Bahia... Feb. 15th*Nebraska* for New Orleans... " 20th*To Rio Grande Ports:**Clutha*..... As announced.*or Clutha*.....

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Reserve Fund.....	£ 185,000

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Capital.....	£ 1,250,000
Capital paid up.....	£ 625,000
Reserve fund.....	£ 300,000

Draws on:

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Messrs. Mallet Frères & Co., PARIS,

Messrs. J. H. SCHROEDER & Co., HAMBURG,

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22, Rua da Alfandega, 22

Capital..... 20,000,000 \$000

President: Visconde de Figueiredo

Managing Director: Edward Herdman, Esq.

This bank draws on

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Messrs. De Rothschild Frères—Paris

Deutsche Bank..... Hamburg

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Banco Hipotecario de Espana, and agencies. Madrid

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Valencia

Banco de Portugal, and agencies. Lisbon

Oporto

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With the beginning of its 15th volume (January, 1888) the editors feel themselves warranted in calling attention to the uniform and general satisfaction with which their policy and management have thus far been received, and in advising their patrons that no deviation whatever from them will be made. This News will seek to keep its readers fully and accurately informed on all commercial questions, and upon all matters of Brazilian news or policy which may have more or less bearing upon any and all enterprises and investments. In its discussions it will treat every question frankly, and for the opinions expressed the editors will hold themselves personally responsible. In its news columns it will seek to keep its readers fully informed on all matters and occurrences throughout Brazil.

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